

REMARKS

The present application is a Preliminary Amendment to U.S. Serial No. 10/071,768, filed February 7, 2002, (hereinafter the "'768 Application"). This Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action. The '768 Application contained claims 1-15. This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 9 and 10. In addition, this Preliminary Amendment adds new claims 16-37. Therefore, claims 1-37 are presented for consideration. No new matter has been added by these amendments. All the pending claims comply with all the requirements of 35 U.S.C. Accordingly, Applicant requests examination and allowance of all pending claims.

Attached hereto is an appendix entitled "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE," which is a marked-up version of the changes made to the present application by the current amendment.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment and to examine the pending claims. The Examiner is respectfully urged to consider the claimed invention at the earliest time possible and issue a favorable action indicating the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone Applicant's undersigned representative at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: May 10, 2002

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 9 and 10 have been amended as follows. New claims 16-37 have been added as follows:

1 9. (Amended) A system for cost-sharing of a client's subscription to usage of a
2 hosted enterprise solution, the system comprising:
3 a first module for developing new and maintaining existing partner lists;
4 a second module for developing new and maintaining existing invitee lists;
5 a third module for merging invitees' information with invitation templates to
6 generate invitations;
7 a fourth module for generating invitations via electronic mail to all invitees;
8 a fifth module for updating subscription information that is accessible by clients
9 online, thus allowing clients to manage their subscription fees to service providers;
10 **[and]**
11 a sixth module for generating electronic messages of reminders to urge
12 unresponsive invitees to come to a subscription conclusion; and
13 a seventh module for calculating credit earned generated by external revenue to
14 offset subscription fees incurred by usage of host solutions by the client.

1 10. (Amended) The **[method]** system of claim 9, wherein the system for cost-
2 sharing is offered to the client as an option.

1 --16. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the invitee list includes all of the
2 partners from the created list of partners.

1 17. (New) The system in claim 9, wherein the fourth module is configured to
2 generate invitations to all partners on a partner list.

1 18. (New) A system for cost-sharing of a client's subscription for usage of a
2 hosted enterprise solution, the system comprising:
3 a first module for providing a new partner list of partners;
4 a second module for providing a new subscriber list of subscribers;
5 a third module for calculating subscription fees, including those incurred by
6 partners who did not buy subscriptions, that have not been paid for; and
7 a fourth module for billing a client for subscription fees that have not been paid
8 for.

1 19. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the system for cost-sharing is offered
2 to the client as an option.

1 20. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the system is configured to track
2 subscription fees that are at least partially contributed by the partners for using hosted
3 enterprise solutions.

1 21. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein at least one of the partners are non-
2 subscribers.

1 22. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein at least one of the partners are
2 subscribers.

1 23. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the system is configured to track
2 subscription fees that are at least partially contributed by the client for using hosted
3 enterprise solutions.

1 24. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the non-subscribers are partners who
2 did not buy subscriptions.

1 25. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein there exist one or more users that
2 include a subscriber, non-subscriber or a client.

1 26. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the hosted enterprise solution
2 facilitates collaboration privileges for subscribers, non-subscribers and clients.

1 27. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the collaboration is data-exchange
2 collaboration.

1 28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the collaboration is document
2 workflow collaboration.

1 29. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein the cost-sharing system is configured
2 to track cost-sharing among subscribers, non-subscribers and clients.

1 30. (New) The system of claim 18, wherein calculating subscription fees includes
2 calculating earned credit generated by external revenue to offset against fees for usage
3 of a hosted enterprise solution.

1 31. (New) A method of cost-sharing of a client's subscription to usage of a
2 hosted enterprise solution, the method comprising:
3 providing a new list of partners of a client;
4 calculating subscription fees, including those that are incurred by partners who
5 did not buy subscriptions, that have not been paid for; and
6 billing the client for subscription fees that have not been paid for.

1 32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the system for cost-sharing is offered
2 to the client as an option.

1 33. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein calculating subscription fees
2 includes calculating earned credit generated by using external revenue to offset against
3 subscription fees for usage of hosted enterprise solution.

1 34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the external revenue and the credit
2 are different amounts.

1 35. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the subscription fee is at least
2 partially contributed by the non-subscribers for using hosted enterprise solutions.

1 36. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the hosted enterprise solution
2 facilitates giving collaboration privileges to non-subscribers, subscribers and clients.

1 37. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising tracking cost-sharing
2 among at least one subscriber, non-subscriber and client.--